



Soldiers

Gulf Update

Army Aviation
Flying High at 20
Yakima's Stryker
Solution



Civilian Workforce
Poster
AT PAGE 40

Soldiers

April 2003 Volume 58, No. 4



The Official U.S. Army Magazine

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Graphic Designer: LeRoy Jewell
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Printing: Gateway Press, Inc. Louisville, Ky.

Soldiers (ISSN 0093-8440) is published monthly under supervision of the Army Chief of Public Affairs to provide the Total Army with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. ■ Manuscripts of interest to Army personnel are invited. Direct communication is authorized to **Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Suite S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**. Phone: DSN 656-4486 or commercial (703) 806-4486. Or send e-mail to soldiers@belvoir.army.mil. ■ Unless otherwise indicated (and except for "by permission" and copyright items), material may be reprinted provided credit is given to **Soldiers** and the author. ■ All photographs by U.S. Army except as otherwise credited.

■ Military distribution: From the U.S. Army Distribution Operations Facility, 1655 Woodson Road, St. Louis, MO 63114-6181, in accordance with Initial Distribution Number (IDN) 050007 subscription requirements submitted by commanders. ■ The Secretary of the Army has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law of the department. ■ Use of funds for printing this publication was approved by the Secretary of the Army on Sept. 2, 1986, in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation 25-30. Library of Congress call number: U1.A827. ■ Periodicals postage paid at Fort Belvoir, VA, and additional mailing offices. ■ Individual domestic subscriptions are available at \$38 per year through the Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. For credit card orders call (202) 512-1800 or FAX (202) 512-2250. ■ To change addresses for individual subscriptions, send your mailing label with changes to: Superintendent of Documents, Mail Stop SSOM, Washington, DC 20402. ■ POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Fort Belvoir address above.

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Front cover:
A soldier of the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, trains in Kuwait for possible war with Iraq. —
Photo by Steve Harding

◀ 4



From the Editor

AT press time, preparations were continuing for possible war with Iraq. In this issue, Heike Hasenauer covers those preparations in "Update, Preparing for War."

One of the brightest stars of the last Gulf War was Army aviation, and this month the aviation branch celebrates its 20th birthday. In "Army Aviation: Flying High at 20," SPC William Petersen chronicles the branch's storied history.

When it comes to history, perhaps no single act had as much impact on the future of the United States as the Louisiana Purchase. Over the next two years, our nation will celebrate the bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's exploration of those lands. In "Lewis and Clark and the U.S. Army Corps of Discovery," Gil High provides a quick look at key events leading up to the expedition. Watch for special Lewis and Clark coverage and inserts in upcoming issues.

Finally, frequent contributor MSG Bob Haskell shows us how National Guard soldiers from five states joined in the search for remains and debris following the Feb. 1 breakup of the space shuttle *Columbia*.

John C. Suttle

Not Tim

THE picture on page 11 of the February issue is of me, but the caption is wrong. My name is LTC Tom (not Tim) O'Hara. I also am not commander of the 405th Civil Affairs Battalion. I am deputy commander of the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I was in Afghanistan supporting the 20th Engineer Brigade out of Fort Bragg, N.C.

LTC Thomas E. O'Hara Jr.
via e-mail

Thanks for the correction to the caption, which was provided to us by the photographer.

Turkey Tablets

I ENJOYED the February article "Living in Turkey" by MAJ William Beckman, but noticed a minor error.

In the box on page 16 the author stated that: "Writing was first used by people in ancient Anatolia. The first clay tablets — in the ruins of Assyrian Karum — date back to 1950 B.C."

Actually, the oldest known writing, also on clay tablets, was found in 1974 at Tell Mardikh, Syria, and dated to 2400-2500 B.C.

Hermann Albers
via e-mail

THE February article on Turkey was in error about that country being the site of the oldest known writing.

The earliest known writing was Sumerian cuneiform in the Mesopotamian Valley (modern Iraq) at approximately 3500 BC, with Egyptian hieroglyphics a close second. Both are significantly earlier than the article's statement of 1950 BC

Hot Topics Huzzahs

CONGRATULATIONS on your February Hot Topics issue on family violence. This is a significant issue, and it is important to involve our leaders in its solution. I'm particularly pleased to see Hot Topics address this sensitive, but sometimes hidden, topic. Keep up the good work.

LTG Lawrence F. Skibbie (Ret.)
via e-mail

I APPLAUD your February Hot Topics insert on domestic violence. I also find it troubling.

While it was correct in stating that women and children suffer most, it failed to mention that men are battered 800,000 times a year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. How many go unreported? Your illustrations were touching, but none depicted a man holding off a woman attempting to get at him, or throwing things through the home or getting in his face.

I can't help but think that a man in an abusive situation, who already feels embarrassed about it, will only think twice after reading your insert before reporting it. He'll wonder who'll believe him, or he'll eventually react to the woman's abusive behavior and then himself be seen as the abuser.

Men, you, too, need to report abuse the first time. It happens, and you are not alone.

SGT Chad Kennedy
Troy, Ohio

YOUR February Hot Topics contains valuable information about domestic violence that will benefit our families and leaders.

However, the insert was clearly lacking emphasis on the leader's role in punishing offenders. As much as we want to help families, we cannot ignore that most domestic violence incidents are crimes. Domestic violence should not be treated as a purely clinical problem. We must hold offenders accountable for their actions.

LTC Susan C. Daniels
Via e-mail



for the clay tablets from Anatolia.

SSG Jim Monroe
Fort Bragg, N.C.

Ciao, Camp Smith

IN your February Feedback a reader asked about the loca-

tion of Camp Smith.

I believe my father-in-law was stationed at Camp Smith, near Nevada, Mo., in the early 1940s. He was a military policeman, and for the rest of his life he was a great Italian cook — a skill he had learned while guarding the Italian

POWs held at Camp Smith.
Ansley M. Starr
via e-mail

Poster Praise

I AM the Netherlands liaison officer at Fort Leavenworth, and I, like a lot of other people, enjoy your posters very much. I personally think that your posters are an excellent way to reach not only existing Army members — both on active duty and in the reserve component — but also potential new soldiers.

Lt. Col. Andre R. Buimer
Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

THIS is the first time I have ever felt compelled to write to any service or service-related magazine. I just wanted to say I believe that I must be one of the “old Army” soldiers, based on my beliefs and unwillingness to change.

I really did not like or enjoy the black beret when it got here, and I really thought the “Army of One” slogan was out of touch. However, you and your readers have helped me to overcome some of these “afflictions.” I am trying to open my mind to our “new” soldiers in the “new” Army.

The one plus of all the latest events is the terrific new line of posters you have out. The new “Army of One” slogan takes on a new light with the innovative art of the poster. I say “well done” to the designers and editors involved with them.

Ssg Jack Chase
Fort Campbell, Ky.

Great Rats

IN December's issue, Heike Hasenauer wrote about how greatly Army rations have improved. I can second that.

I was a sergeant in the field artillery in Vietnam in the late 1960s, and we ate almost nothing except C rations. They were barely edible.

All I can say is that soldiers should be thankful for the quality and diversity of today's military rations.

Paul J. Constantino
Burlingame, Calif.

Soul and Body

IT was with great joy and interest that I read my first issue of *Soldiers* — the December 2002 edition.

As the daughter of a Navy pilot and chaplain, I know what ministering to members of the U.S. military means — offering food for hungry hearts and

souls. We grew up learning respect and appreciation for people of all races and creeds, which your article, “Serving God and Country” so accurately portrayed.

The very next article, “Kitchen Artistry,” struck a professional chord. As a nutritionist at California State University at Fullerton, I have shared nutrition and health insights with the top-rated Titan Army ROTC cadets. Feeding our soldiers nutritionally dense foods is imperative, for we truly are what we eat. If the food looks and tastes excellent, all the better!

Kudos to the Army chefs and journalists!

Ada C. Schulz
via e-mail

Soldiers is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a post card will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense your views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one, but we'll use representative views. Write to: **Feedback, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581**, or e-mail: soldiers@belvoir.army.mil.



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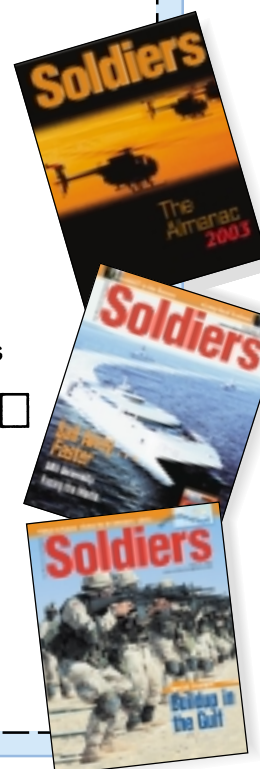
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Update:



Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division continued to hone their skills as the search for a diplomatic solution to the Iraq crisis went on.



SPC Adam Neulken (all three this page)

Preparing

Story by Heike Hasenauer

It was ironic that Feb. 14 — the day observed in the United States and other Western nations as Valentine's day, a day to express love and affection — should be the day enemies met on the soil of their respective countries to decide the fate of armies and civilians.

It was the date United Nations weapons inspectors presented yet another report to the Security Council about their findings in Iraq. Meantime, in Iraq, a government council there conducted a critical meeting that Mohammed Aldouri, the Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations, said was to adopt national legislation banning weapons of mass destruction.

The U.S. media expected war to break out in the tense Persian Gulf region any day, following Eid Al-Adha, the three-day Muslim holiday commemorating Abraham's agreement to sacrifice his son at God's command.

U.S. and coalition troops and supplies continued pouring into Kuwait days before half of that country was to be designated a training area and made off-limits to the local population. "Warp speed," was how one official described the buildup that was so intense, in fact, that the Department of Defense initiated the use of commercial airliners to transport troops under the Civilian Reserve Air Fleet program, first used during the 1991 Gulf War.



Two 3rd ID soldiers are silhouetted by the setting sun at one of the many U.S. camps in the Kuwaiti desert.

Continuous training in chemical decontamination remained high on the priority list for soldiers throughout the Gulf region.

for War

By late February, DOD officials reported there were 200,000 U.S. troops in the Gulf region, about half of them in Kuwait. Some 4,000 troops were positioned in Turkey. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld had ordered the deployment of two 7,000-member Marine amphibious task forces and the Army's 3rd and 4th Infantry Divisions to the Gulf, both with hundreds of M1A1 Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles.

On the home front, some 39,000 more Reservists had been activated, increasing the total number of U.S. Reservists on active duty to 150,000, DOD reports indicated.

Across America and around the world, the ominous words purported to be those of Osama bin Laden — sent via audiotape to the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera Arabic-language TV network — fueled the resolve of countries allied with America to squelch those who would carry out bin Laden's proposed threats.

In the tape, a call to arms for Muslims to fight against any U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, the al-Qaeda leader urged Iraqi Muslims to fight alongside Saddam Hussein. He also offered his followers battle strategies that would inflict the largest number of American casualties, said CIA director George Tenet.

Bin Laden urged suicide bombers to attack apartment buildings, shopping malls — anyplace that would strike the greatest blow to the heart of America.

Tenet, in a report to the Senate Armed Services Committee, said: "There's no limitation on what al Qaeda will do. We've entered a new era of weaponry ... a new world of proliferation." He said threats to



Heike Hasenauer

The soldiers pouring into the Gulf region married up with equipment that had arrived earlier or was drawn from prepositioned stocks.

America include chemical, biological and radiological attacks.

At home, people began stocking up on food, water and duct tape so they could seal windows and doors of their homes should a chemical or biological attack occur. To safeguard U.S. troops, officials required all military personnel de-

ployed to the Gulf region to be vaccinated against smallpox and anthrax.

As a determined nation grew more alert to potential attacks, a few false alarms temporarily rattled nerves further. On Feb. 12, a major bridge crossing the Potomac River in Washington, D.C., closed for hours during the rush-hour commute after a commuter reported a suspicious, unattended package on the bridge. A similar incident took place on a New York City bridge.

U.S. officials had responded to a heightened terrorist-threat level on Feb. 7 — when the Homeland Security Council raised the national threat level from yellow to high-alert orange — based on intelligence data. Officials wasted no time in deploying Humvees carrying Avenger antiaircraft systems to protect Washington, and increased fighter patrols in the skies over the nation's capital and New York.

Daily, as America prepared for war and to protect its interests at home and abroad, soldiers and civilians at home — and far from home — waited for what was to come. □



Steve Harding

Live-fire exercises, like this one near Camp New Jersey in Kuwait, helped keep soldiers ready for combat.

AMERICA and the War on Terrorism

In February the Army, Navy and Marine Corps each announced increases in the numbers of Reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The Air Force announced a decrease. At press time 80,002 Army National Guard and Reserve soldiers were on active duty in support of the mobilization. The number of reserve-component personnel from all services was 111,603, including units and individual augmentees.

Members of the 731st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company from Ohio destroyed nearly 7,500 pounds of ordnance at two sites a few miles outside the main gate of Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan, in January. Army officials said the ordnance was destroyed to ensure the safety of American troops in the area. EOD soldiers also help train military members and civilians to recognize the types of ordnance found in the area, and educate them on the dangers of tampering the items.

Detainees being held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, are providing U.S. military officials with intelligence of "enormous value," said MG Geoffrey D. Miller, commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. At press time roughly 625 detainees were being held at the JTF-GTMO detention facility. Enemy combatants who can contribute to America's ongoing fight against terrorism are being detained, while those who no longer pose a threat are beginning to be released, Miller said.

The U.S. focus in Afghanistan is shifting to reconstruction and long-term stability, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz said during a January visit to the region. The United States wants to keep working with Afghanistan to promote long-term stability by helping to provide security and economic reconstruction. Wolfowitz said the work will include stepping up the pace in building a national army, assisting with humanitarian projects to restore public services and sending provincial reconstruction teams to outlying areas to evaluate what help is needed.



Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division's 504th Inf. Regt. and 307th Engr. Bn. carry explosives toward an Afghan cave complex slated for demolition.



Other troops from the 504th Inf. provide security for unit soldiers searching the Afghan city of Naray for enemy fighters during Operation Devil Shock.



1LT James Bourie provides overwatch as two soldiers from the 2nd Bn., 504th Inf., prepare to enter a cave during Operation Mongoose.



Staff Sgt. Cherie A. Thurlby, USAF

A military police soldier provides perimeter security during a medical civic action team's visit to the Afghan village of Aroki.

Two members of the 504th Inf. make their way down a steep defile in the Adi Ghar mountains during Operation Mon-goose.



SSG Leopold Medina Jr.



SSG Leopold Medina Jr.

Explosives planted by members of the 307th Engr. Bn. demolish a cave used as a hideout by suspected Taliban members.

M-203 gunner PFC Chris Peterson of the 2nd Bn., 504th Inf., fires a grenade at another cave thought to shelter Taliban fighters.



SSG Leopold Medina Jr.

Staff Sgt. Jocelyn M. Broussard, USAF



SPC Lisa Michaels, a medical lab technician with the 226th Medical Battalion in Miesau, Germany, starts an IV during a blood drive at Ramstein Air Base.

Arlington, Va.

Blood Program Seeks Donors

THE Armed Forces Blood Program is seeking donors to help increase its blood supplies. Having sufficient blood supplies ready to use is crucial to military readiness as the United States prepares for possible war with Iraq, said COL Michael Fitzpatrick, who oversees the Department of Defense blood collection and distribution system.

While the Department of Defense has a sufficient supply of blood products to meet current needs, the shipment of blood overseas to support contingency operations has meant less blood on the shelf, he said.

Although the military is asking for more donors, Fitzpatrick said prospective

donors need not rush to give blood at once. Fresh blood, which is the preferred product for transfusions and other medical needs, has a shelf life of only 42 days, he said.

"When your local donor center asks you or your unit to donate, that's when we need military personnel and their families to respond," he said. "Scheduling donations allows us to keep a steady supply of blood flowing to our deployed units and to our medical-treatment facilities." — *American Forces Information Service*

Aberdeen Proving Gmd., Md.

Web Site Supports Army Well-Being

A NEW, comprehensive health and fitness Web site — **www.hooah4health.com** — is geared to helping the Army family be healthier.

HOOAH 4 HEALTH is a self-help, Web-based, interactive health-promotion program that helps integrate the Army's well-being mission. H4H embraces the holistic concept of body, mind, spirit and environment, and is supported by such Army sponsors as the Office of the Surgeon General,

the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard.

Once soldiers log on, they can access dozens of military and other government healthcare pages for health maintenance and preventive medicine educational material.

Interactive health-calculation tools have been developed to assist soldiers in deriving Army Physical Fitness Test scores, finding target heart rates and computing body-mass index.

For those being deployed, the site also offers an environmental module to assist with information on any geographic region in the world. As an added bonus, family members can also access such information as links to family readiness and support resources, including TRICARE. — *COL Christine H. Inouye, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion Public Affairs Office*

Fort Bliss, Texas

New NCO Reference Guide

A NEW pocket-sized reference manual for NCOs —



Field Manual 7-22.7, "The Army Noncommissioned Officer Guide" — is now available electronically. This new five-chapter reference manual provides NCOs a guide for leading, supervising and caring for soldiers.

Top Army NCOs provided suggestions and guidance during the manual's development, so leaders could easily use it in a variety of situations.

The U.S. Army Publishing Agency has established an electronic version at the GEN Dennis J. Reimer Training and Doctrine Digital Library, www.adtdl.army.mil/cgi-bin/atdl.dll/fm/7-22.7/fm7-22.7.htm. NCOs can link to the Reimer Library through Army Knowledge Online, www.us.army.mil, or through the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy home page, <http://usasma.bliss.army.mil/dotd/ncoguide.htm>. — SSG Dave Enders, USASMA PAO

Arlington, Va.

DODEA Gets Special-Ed Funds

THE Department of Defense Education Activity will receive an additional \$56.6 million to improve its special-education programs.

The money was awarded after DODEA cited a need for additional staffing, training and equipment for special-education students.

Elizabeth Middlemiss, the activity's associate director and principal deputy for education, said money also would be used to help make parents more aware of the various programs available to special-education students, who make up about 10 percent of the population of DODEA's 220 schools worldwide. — AFIS

Washington

IMA Gets New Insignia

MILITARY members of the Installation Management Agency, which was activated in October 2002, now have their own distinctive unit and should-sleeve insignia. The new crest and patch were authorized for wear in March.

Soldiers assigned to units that wear the maroon beret with flash and background trim will continue to wear those items along with the IMA insignia. Units authorized their own distinctive unit insignia crest, such as area support groups in U.S. Army, Europe, will continue to wear their crests with the IMA shoulder patch.

Additional information regarding wear and appearance of Army insignia is available on the Army Uniform Web page at

www.usapa.army.mil.

For more information, contact U.S. Army Installation Management Agency CSM Debra L. Strickland at (703) 602-6257 or (DSN) 332-6257. — Donna Bernard, IMA PAO

Washington

Airlines Waive Ticket Fees

SOME U.S. airlines are adjusting their rules so service members won't have to pay penalties if they need to alter ticket reservations because of military duty.

AirTran Airways, Delta Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines now waive ticket-change fees for service members on military deployment orders. There are currently no charges for Southwest Airline flights. Continental, Frontier and Northwest Airlines waive

change fees and also will issue refunds on request, said Jean Marie Ward of the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

For information on these programs, visit

www.dod.mil/mapsite/airtickets.html



A number of other airlines will waive ticket-change penalties if service members present copies of their military orders or letters from their commanders, Ward said. But the waiver procedures vary by company, and not all airline personnel know the procedures. Ward suggests travelers call their airlines for waiver information before going to the airport. — AFIS



CPL Jeremy Colvin

U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan Dr. Robert P. Finn (left) joins Afghan officials in fielding media questions during the opening of the Civil-Military Operations Center—Provisional Reconstruction Team "Store Front" in Gardez. The facility was established so civilian organizations and the military can exchange information on the reconstruction of Gardez and surrounding communities.



Twenty years ago this month Army aviators became members of an independent aviation branch — which has continued to demonstrate its professionalism and dedication ever since.

APRIL 12 marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Army's aviation branch, and on that day a new generation of aviation soldiers will be taking flight at Fort Rucker, Ala., the "home of Army Aviation." They are the latest in a long line of resourceful, well-trained and dedicated soldiers who have helped Army aviation evolve to reshape the modern battlefield.

The aviation branch is a perfect example of military Darwinism. What began as a single "species" has adapted, survived, diversified and thrived to become an omnipresent force on the battlefield. From the beginning, aviation soldiers have shown flexibility and ingenuity that has helped win wars, accomplish missions and shape the Army way of life.

SPC M. William Petersen works for the Army Flier newspaper at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Army Aviation:



The Dawn of Army Aviation

The earliest manifestation of modern Army aviation was the L-4 Grasshopper, which saw World War II service as a medevac aircraft, an observer for artillery, an airborne communications relay and, occasionally, even as an attack aircraft.

“These basic threads of versatility and flexibility are expressed in the origin of organic Army aviation,” said Dr. James Williams, Aviation Branch historian at Fort Rucker. “This continued in Korea, where the Transportation Corps capitalized on the advantage of rotary-wing technology to form helicopter companies. There was also a non-doctrinal response to the need for aeromedical evacuation.”

Larger, troop-carrying helicopters also made their combat debut in Korea, which led to the establishment of airmobile and air-assault units.

“In Vietnam, aviation became central to the whole fight,” said Williams. “If you took aviation out of Vietnam, you wouldn’t have Vietnam.”

The Vietnam War also prompted the development of the attack helicopter, with armed UH-1s eventually giving way to the purpose-built AH-1 Cobra.

Army aviation soon adapted to perform a diverse list of missions, including resupply, troop movement, gunfire support, medevac, communications, and command and control. “The Army emerged from Vietnam as an aviation-dependant organization. Vietnam also allowed for tremendous displays of ingenuity and courage on the part of aviation soldiers,” Williams said.



Though aviation had been part of the Army since the days of Civil War observation balloons, it was the Vietnam War that shaped modern Army aviation.

Flying High at 20

By SPC M. William Petersen



Simulators — from the older UH-1 model through the latest Apache and Comanche systems — have revolutionized Army flight training.

A Branch Emerges

Army aviation in the aftermath of Vietnam was a house divided — assets were attached to artillery, infantry and transportation units. These aviation companies became larger than company-sized, and the need to professionalize aviation became apparent. The aviators in the Army were beginning to have more aviation demands put on them, yet they were still members of different branches.

“With the development of complex, post-Vietnam aircraft systems, aviators were getting stretched between their branches and their aviation duties,” Williams said. “The 1983 establishment of the aviation branch means we’ve now got a population that concentrates the bulk of its efforts on mastering the capabilities of aviation.”

Aviation began to take its modern shape and refined its mission of supporting ground troops in every way through the use of off-the-shelf technology and doctrinal changes.

Pioneered during the Vietnam War and refined ever since, the concept of air mobility — the rapid movement of soldiers and materiel by helicopter — has helped the Army dominate the battlefield.



Technology has played an equally important role in the training of enlisted aviation technicians, allowing them to master increasingly sophisticated systems.

Continually Evolving

The various “species” of Army aviation continue to develop through Army Transformation.

The AH-64D Apache Longbow, for example, has evolved as an airframe for the 21st century that can recognize and prioritize targets in seconds. And the development of the RAH-66 Comanche as a versatile armed reconnaissance helicopter signals a new generation of aircraft.

“There are a lot of things we’re working on for the future of aviation,” said LTC Bob Johnson, chief of the Futures Development Division in the Directorate of Combat Developments at the U.S. Army Aviation Center. “Aviation is actually a leading part of the Objective Force; we’re already fielding technology for the Comanche and the Objective Force. As we move to a lighter Army, we make up for that weight with situational awareness and understanding.”

Currently in the works at DCD are a new heavy-lift helicopter; the teaming of unmanned aerial vehicles with the Longbow and Comanche; and developing “air lines of communication” intended to eliminate the need for hundreds of trucks to resupply troops in the field, Johnson said.

“More than at any other time, aviation is growing to handle such new missions as reconnaissance, mobile strike and sustainment — because we’re the best for it,” Johnson said.

Airframes that have become a staple of aviation operations are being

The Army’s advances in managing air traffic — both in peace and war — help ensure both the effectiveness of aviation operations and the safety of soldiers.



From the all-weather AH-64D (left) to the all-purpose UH-60 (above), Army aviation has the right aircraft for every job soldiers may encounter.

upgraded for the Objective Force as well.

“The modernization of the UH-60 and CH-47 are the two biggest projects we’re working on now,” said MAJ Barry Higgs, chief of DCD’s Combat Aircraft Division. “A digital platform in the cockpit will allow us to talk with other systems on the battlefield. We’re also building an increased operability and performance enhancement.”

What began with the single-engine L-4 is now a dominant presence on the

battlefield and plays a role in missions around the world.

“It all goes back to the quality of people in Army aviation. Across the board, you won’t find better people. They take seriously what they need to do and have the brainpower to make good on their missions,” Williams said.

As the Army looks to the future, there will be the aviation branch, 20 years young with a lifetime of experience and, as always, “Above the Best.” □



The Stryker *and* Land Management

Story By Neal Snyder



Just as the introduction of the Stryker is changing the way the Army looks at land warfare, the vehicle's arrival has brought changes in the ways federal training lands are managed.

THE Stryker wheeled fighting vehicle is a symbol of Army Transformation, and is designed to lead to a radically different Army than the one that exists today. And the people who maintain the lands on which the first Stryker brigades train at Yakima Training Center, Wash., are changing their methods to protect the land.

Yakima's evolving "adaptive management" plan for guarding

cultural and natural resources relies on the use of up-to-the-minute technology to deal with the impact of training the transformation units, said Paul Martin, a facilitator and coordinator of National Environmental Policy Act compliance with the Department of the Army and the Stryker Brigade Combat Team sites.

To best manage a particular training area, managers must know the condition of that area before units begin training there, and assess its likelihood to withstand intensive

maneuvers like training. Upon completion of the training, they must measure as accurately as possible what effects that training had on the land. They can then calculate the possible effects of follow-on training. Poorly managed land can quickly result in cases of non-compliance, Martin said.

Previously, managers attempted to predict, based on experience and modeling, what kind of impact certain types of training would have on particular tracts of land and then plan accordingly. "But the proof and

Neal Snyder is a public affairs officer for the U.S. Army Environmental Center.



Stryker crews are learning to fight in new and innovative ways, and land managers are developing new methods that take the vehicle's mobility into consideration.

understanding of actual impacts often lagged far behind," Martin said.

"There hasn't been what you would call normal Stryker training yet," added Yakima's executive officer, Jim Reddick.

"The biggest difference in training has been the open area required for a small element, because an infantry unit with Strykers requires up to 10 times as much training space as it did before," Reddick said.

In addition, the vehicle is more mobile than a lot of people thought it would be. "It gets into places that haven't been used for vehicle training to any great extent," Reddick said.

COL Michael Rounds, commander of the 3rd Bde., 2nd Inf. Regt., which operates the vehicles, said the Stryker adds a lot more speed and range to operations. A Stryker can go places Humvees or armored personnel carriers like the Bradley cannot, he said.

Soldiers maneuvering with the Strykers are learning to fight in ways as new as the vehicles themselves.

"The 1st and 3rd brigades are on the leading edge of Army training," said Paul Nissen, YTC's natural-resources manager. "They're writing doctrine as they go."

At the same time, Yakima is

effectively writing land-management doctrine for some of the earliest Stryker training. "The information we're gathering will be important to other installations with Stryker brigades," he added.

To gather the data adaptive management requires, the Yakima managers have been conducting two different studies.

When the brigades first received light armored vehicles in anticipation of the Stryker, Nissen and his crew drove the vehicles over sample plots of ground. They kept careful track of the plots' "recovery" and created a model to calculate future impact.

Second, they designed a passive,

remote Global Positioning System device to monitor Stryker units as they train. As Strykers return from the field, Yakima officials remove the suitcase-sized devices and download their data.

"We then have a 'snail-trail' of information on where the units have been," Nissen said. "For that week or 10 days we can gauge actual unit movement time versus idle time. We can determine how far the vehicles traveled off improved roads. We can look at the steepness of the slopes they drove on and see where they conducted repetitive activities."

The GPS system was developed in 2001, and its first use with the Stryker took place in the late fall of 2002.

Margaret Pounds, YTC's wildlife program manager, said Stryker training doctrine won't stabilize soon, since the brigades are still in an experimental stage.

While soldier training changed with the advent of the Stryker, the rules environmental managers work under didn't. Trainers must take into account the environmental restrictions already in place before the brigades were announced.

"We have to meet the requirements of the statutes," Nissen said. "What's going to change is how we interact with and manage our resources."

"Under adaptive management, you lay out a framework of where you want to go," Nissen said. "You take



While soldier training changed with the advent of the Stryker, environmental managers must work within the rules that existed before the vehicle's introduction.

that framework and apply it to your management strategies. You adjust land-use patterns and repair and maintenance activities, and specify how to adjust to thresholds that might be coming down the road.”

Adaptive management doesn’t just support day-to-day training. The information will also be used as Fort Lewis and the YTC develop their environmental impact statements for Stryker training.

The Stryker obstacle course is an example of where the environmental staff used its data to work with the training community. “We worked with them to harden the places most likely to fall into disrepair quickly,” Nissen said. “The data successfully predicted which unimproved areas needed repair work.”

“When they started realizing the capabilities of some of the tools we were working with, such as the Geographic Information System, they started working with us to obtain information to help them train more effectively,” Rounds said.

Nissen wants the GIS program to eventually make information available “directly to the customer” via the internet. “We want to try a Web-based GIS tool to let them build custom maps for their own training,” he added.

On any day, about 2,000 soldiers might be training at YTC. Watching some of his 600-odd soldiers take an evening break and prepare for night fire, LTC Len McWherter, 1st Bn. commander, said he hasn’t noticed any differences in the way his soldiers deal with environmental issues now that they are using Strykers.

Soldiers are taking the usual environmental precautions — maintaining spill kits, refueling in places hardened for that purpose and activating flameless ration heaters, among other things. “There are no more restrictions on us than for any other unit that trains here,” McWherter added. □



Oh yeah... Army's Got

Story by Gil High



Jerry Nadeau talks with a fan in Afghanistan.



Tony Schumacher signs autographs during the visit.

CPL Keith A. Kluge (both)



Gil High

Follow our teams this season...

Visit Jerry Nadeau's site at
www.jerry-nadeau.com
and Tony Schumacher's site at
www.tonyschumacher.com.

That didn't give either driver much time to prepare for their racing seasons, which began in February, but both men said the trips were rewarding and a welcome break before their season openers.

"I wish every American could see what our troops go through, so they realize how lucky we are to have our freedom because of the military and dedication of its soldiers," Nadeau said. "Maybe being able to shake hands and say thanks to the soldiers I met meant a lot to them, but it meant much more to me."

Nadeau is driver of MB2 Motorsports' No. 01 "U.S. Army Car," a Pontiac Grand Prix. This is his first year on the Army team.

Schumacher, known as "The Sarge," because of his Army sponsorship, is among the leading

contenders for the NHRA Winston Top Fuel Championship and is hailed as the fastest driver in drag racing with history's first 330-mph run.

The racers' close association with the Army seems to be growing stronger. Now soldiers, who are deployed all over the world and often feel a loss of roots associated with the teams they once followed, have their own "Home Team" to cheer to victory. And as for Nadeau and Schumacher, they take that support as something to be cherished.

Schumacher said having the Army sponsorship was a wonderful opportunity, but it was also inspiring. "I've got big shoes to fill," he said.

"I plan to do my best at every opportunity to represent the Army and somehow communicate how amazing and valued Army people are," Nadeau added. □

Racing

WHILE others were home enjoying the last days of the Christmas season and beginning of the New Year, NASCAR driver

Jerry Nadeau and National Hot Rod Association driver Tony Schumacher were touring Afghanistan to greet soldiers supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Then they were off to San Antonio, Texas, to sign autographs for soldiers and sports fans attending the Army-sponsored high school All-American football game that was carried live on ESPN2.

The drivers pose with Nadeau's Pontiac Grand Prix (top) and with Tony Schumacher's dragster (right).



Gil High



Europe's U.S. Mil

EUROPE'S only U.S. military detention facility — the U.S. Army Confinement Facility, Europe, in Mannheim, Germany — houses some 80 prisoners in its two stories at any time. Most of them are soldiers, but a few are sailors or airmen.

“Offenders who come here are typically single, white males, about 24 years old,” said CPT Ricky Martinez, a social worker in the prison’s Correctional Treatment Branch.

“About 45 percent of them have received Article 15s before being sent here, and 45 percent have admitted that a substance-abuse problem contributed to their behavior,” Martinez said.

“They serve sentences for crimes that include drug possession, use and distribution; arson, larceny; child or spouse abuse; rape; even murder,” he added.

“If a soldier receives a life sentence in Europe following a court martial, he comes here before being sent to a maximum-security prison in the United States,” said CPT William Torrey, the facility’s executive officer.

“If prisoners come in here with sentences of more than one year, we start procedures to get them transferred to the United States right away,” Torrey said. “If they require maximum-level security, we try to get them out of here within two weeks.”

Two convicted child molesters, who both received 18-year prison terms, were among a recent group of maximum-security prisoners. They were transported out within two weeks, Torrey said.

Quarterly, groups of prisoners are flown via C-5 transport plane to the United States, where they serve their sentences at the U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., or one of three regional U.S. Army correctional facilities, Torrey said.

“First they have to be cleared through the U.S. Army, Europe, Judge Advocate General’s office, to ensure there are



The U.S. Army Confinement Facility, Europe, in Mannheim, Germany, has five watchtowers, double fences, concertina wire and perimeter sensors, and can house up to maximum-security-level prisoners.

itary Prison

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer





no additional pending actions against the prisoner. German authorities must also approve the transfer of inmates, Torrey said. “The Germans have first dibs on prosecuting soldiers who break the law in Germany, even if a soldier is charged with assaulting another soldier on a U.S. military installation in Germany.

“The number-one offense of prisoners here is use and distribution of drugs,” said Torrey. “Most popular now is ‘Ecstasy,’ followed by marijuana, hallucinogenic mushrooms, and sometimes heroine and cocaine.”

Soldiers of the 9th Military Police Detachment, part of the Mannheim-based 95th MP Battalion, make up the prison’s guard force, its headquarters and social-work section. They also man the prison’s “industry” shops, Torrey said, to teach inmates carpentry and other skills. A full-time Army chaplain is on hand, too, to provide spiritual support.

SFC William Powell is chief of the Prisoner Services Branch at the confinement facility. As such, he’s responsible for in-processing prisoners, which includes taking fingerprints and issuing badges. Sometimes, based on the type of crime an inmate has committed, DNA samples must be taken and sent to the appropriate laboratory.

Powell is also responsible for victim and witness notifications, sex-offender registration and ensuring prisoners have access to their attorneys. And to ease the harsh burden that befalls families when Army paychecks no longer arrive to cover bills, Powell administers the Prisoner Welfare Fund that provides them temporary monetary relief.

“Rarely do the soldiers we get return to active duty,” Torrey said. They may leave the prison to go back to their units, but, typically, only as a formality — to receive a bad conduct or dishonorable discharge after serving their prison time.

“During a six-month stay here for

A 9th Military Police Detachment soldier, one of some 100 who rotate guard duty at the facility, returns a prisoner to his cell.



A prison guard unlocks one of the gates, allowing other guards access to another section of the facility.

"The number-one offense of prisoners here is use and distribution of drugs. Most popular now is 'Ecstasy,' followed by marijuana, hallucinogenic mushrooms, and sometimes heroine and cocaine."

an absent-without-leave offense, for example, a soldier's commander may have filed a Chapter 14 action, or misconduct report, to discharge him," Torrey said.

"Unfortunately, we don't have any way of tracking repeat offenders," Torrey added. "That's because to be sent to the confinement facility a soldier has to be court-martialed." And once he has done something that results in that level of punishment, the Army won't give him the chance to do it again, Torrey said.

That's not to say the Army doesn't give soldiers who make a mistake a second chance. "A soldier might very well have been given a second chance by his commander, who elected not to court-martial him after he committed a first offense," Torrey said.

Powell, who's worked in Army confinement facilities for 18 years, said: "Often the soldiers who end up in confinement have been given several chances at the unit level. Commanders often try to retrain them, get them into counseling or give them Article 15s, as opposed to courts-martial."

Because the confinement facility is a short-term facility, "the programs we can provide prisoners are limited," said Torrey. "It's the difference between a confinement facility and a correctional facility." Anger-management is one of the courses that are offered.

As chief of social-work services, Martinez works with four enlisted soldiers and a graduate student from the University of Maryland, who's doing his practicum at the prison. Along with mental-health services specialists, they provide limited rehabilitative services, he said.

"About one-third of the prisoners volunteer to participate in classes," Martinez said. A life-skills class helps inmates identify their own personality traits and recognize how they differ from others'. How to enhance communication skills, deal with stress, and prepare for a job interview are among other topics of instruction.

The prisoners' day begins at 0530. After the wake-up call, they clean their cells, which contain little more than a cot with sheets, blanket and pillow, and a sink and toilet. After breakfast, they go to work in the prison's dining facility, pulling "KP" or working as cooks' assistants, Torrey said. They also tidy up offices, work in the supply section, paint and wood shops (where they make plaques for units throughout Europe), and the prison laundry.

Life here is without doubt regi-

mented and restrictive, Torrey said. It's a real eye-opener to what loss of freedom feels like, he said.

Massive barred doors divide portions of long corridors, separating cell blocks that house various categories of inmates — male and female; medium- and maximum-security; and pre- and post-trial — those who haven't been convicted yet and are awaiting trial, versus those who have been convicted.

Tops and bottoms of staircases dead end at more barred doors that can only be opened by MPs carrying heavy key rings.

Inmates who commit an infraction at the prison can be sentenced by a prison board to 30 days in "disciplinary segregation," also known as "Delta



The heavy brown steel doors that separate sections of the prison can be opened only by a select group of guards holding the keys.



At the end of the day, MPs who work at the facility have an option prisoners would cherish — they get to leave.

“You have to come across to the inmates as an authority, without coming across as though you’re here to make their lives miserable.”



Block,” Martinez said.

In a central control room, guards can view every aspect of the prison, inside and out, from four monitors fed by cameras located throughout the facility, and on each of the outside towers.

Throughout the facility, inmates complete such assigned chores as waxing and polishing floors. The spit-shined linoleum throughout the facility attests to the staff’s level of expectation and discipline, as do the rows of neatly placed shoes in the cell blocks, the uniformly made beds, and the spotless sinks and toilets.

SPC David Stroh, an MP who’s worked at the facility for almost two years, said, “You have to come across to the inmates as an authority, without coming across as though you’re here to make their lives miserable.

“While we’re directed not to get involved with them personally, we can

From an aisle of pipes outside “Delta Block,” where prisoners are segregated for disciplinary or health reasons, an MP of the 9th MP Det. flushes an inmate’s toilet.

show concern when they’re especially bothered by something,” Stroh said. “We can ask them what’s wrong and direct them to the proper source for support or intervention.”

To alleviate some of the stress posed by being imprisoned, time for recreation is provided one hour a day, at which time inmates may work out in the gym or play board games, Powell said. When the weather permits, they may go outside. During additional free time, they’re allowed to visit the prison library or chapel.

The amount of mail inmates may receive is unlimited, Powell said, and music and special programming, via the Armed Forces Network-Europe, is piped into their cell blocks after duty hours.

Prisoner privileges also include visitors on weekends, but only after prison counselors have approved the visit and Army officials have ascertained that the visitor isn’t linked to the respective inmate’s crime, Powell said.

There are no conjugal visits for married prisoners. Their opportunities for physical closeness are limited to hand-holding and brief kisses, Powell said.

Most prisoners accept their circumstances, he said. The last time an inmate tried to escape was in December 1999, Torrey added.

“It was a poor effort, to say the least. The guy was taking out the trash and decided to make a run for it, forgetting the circular razor wire on the first of two fences. It sliced his hands up pretty bad,” Torrey said.

Besides his physical injury, the soldier, who had eight months of his sentence remaining, received an additional sentence for his escape attempt.

Other deterrents to escape include fence sensors that set off alarms when touched and five manned watchtowers that surround the facility.

“The biggest thing about confinement,” said Powell, “is loss of freedom and liberty. Having to go to prison is punishment alone.” The easiest way to never have to experience it is to stay out of trouble, he said. □

Lewis and Clark

and the U.S. Army Corps of Discovery

Story by Gil High

THIS year began the official celebration of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and May of 2004 will see a flurry of activities to commemorate the start, in 1804, of a journey that lasted more than two years and covered nearly 8,000 miles.

But the remarkable adventures of Lewis and Clark during their exploration of the Louisiana Purchase began nearly a year earlier with the recruitment of a few American soldiers and the vision of their commander in chief.

For more than 20 years Thomas Jefferson had expressed curiosity about the lands west of the Mississippi River, and even before he was inaugurated president in March 1801 he was forming plans for a government-sponsored exploration of the West.

Jefferson's opportunity to acquire the Louisiana Territory came in the form of a threat. Napoleon Bonaparte had become emperor of France in 1800 and held title to Louisiana. Jefferson didn't want a French army at his western border and knew that loss of access to the port of New Orleans would be disastrous to the U.S. economy.

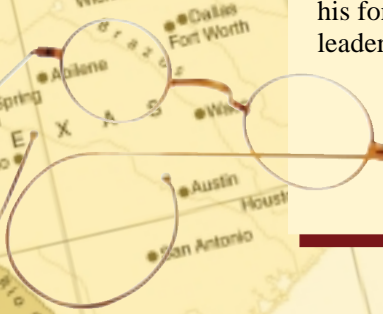
For his part, Napoleon had his own troubles in the New World when the people of Haiti successfully revolted against French rule. At the same time, France was again at war with Great Britain. Knowing Napoleon's situation, Jefferson instructed his minister to France to offer to buy a tract of land on the lower Mississippi River or at least negotiate a treaty guaranteeing free navigation of the river.

At first Bonaparte refused every proposal, but in a surprise move in April 1803 he offered to sell the entire Louisiana territory.

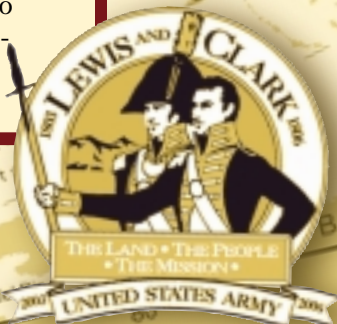
The purchase, amounting to 3 cents an acre, extended America's western border to the Rocky Mountains and added 828,000 square miles, doubling the nation's size.

Even though finalization of the purchase would take months, Jefferson immediately asked his private secretary, CPT Meriwether Lewis, to start logistical planning for an expedition to explore the new lands and to assemble a "Corps of Discovery." Lewis quickly agreed and soon after wrote his former commander, LT William Clark, requesting that he act as co-leader of the expedition.

The two friends — and the small group of soldiers and civilian guides, interpreters and boatmen they assembled — were tasked to open the West to trade, explore the navigable rivers, map the territory, and study the land and its natural resources along the way.



Beginning the Journey



1803: The Preparation

WITHIN weeks of his appointment to lead the expedition, Meriwether Lewis visited the federal arsenal at Fort Monroe, Va., to select weapons and supplies. This chronology highlights some of the preparations for the expedition.

Dec. 20 — The United States takes title to the Louisiana Purchase, opening the way for the exploration to come. Through April 1804 Clark continues training the men while Lewis spends much of his time in St. Louis, making preparations for the journey

Dec. 7 — Soldiers and boatmen clamber ashore south of St. Louis after poling their keelboat and two pirogues up the Illinois side of the Mississippi. Soldiers begin clearing land for Camp River Dubois at the mouth of the Wood River, where the Missouri and Mississippi rivers meet.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition

Preparation

Lewis leads the expedition, and the arsenal at Harpers Ferry oversees the construction of the keelboat. One of the events leading to the expedition is the purchase of the Louisiana Territory.

April and May — Lewis travels to Lancaster, Pa., to meet astronomer Andrew Ellicot and learn to plot latitude and longitude to better find his way across the unknown wilderness. His next stop is Philadelphia, where he learns rudimentary medicine and studies botany, zoology, surveying and Indian lore.

June 19 — Lewis writes to friend William Clark, asking him to serve as co-commander. Clark accepts in a letter dated July 18.

July 4 — Lewis receives his official orders: "To explore the Missouri River and its principal streams and to travel on to the Pacific Ocean." Announcement of the purchase of the Louisiana Territory is published in national newspapers.

Sept. 11 — Averaging 12 miles a day moving downstream on the Ohio River, Lewis approaches Grand View, Ohio, with the first permanent members of the expedition.

July 6-17 — Lewis returns to Harpers Ferry to pick up supplies and move them overland to Pittsburgh. There he is delayed for more than a month when he learns a contractor hired to build a 55-foot keelboat has used inferior materials and must redo much of the work.

Oct. 14 — Clark and the "young men from Kentucky" join the group in Louisville, Ky. He continues recruiting and training men through November.

Lewis and Clark Expedition

IN DECEMBER 1803 William Clark began recruiting and training the men who would make the journey westward. The “Corps” consisted of 51 men, including 37 soldiers, 13 civilian boatmen and interpreters, and Clark’s slave, York. Especially among the soldiers, each expedition member possessed multiple skills, including experience in leatherwork, blacksmithing, gunsmithing, carpentry and surveying.

The original party included:



SGT Nathaniel Pryor — Eventually earned a commission, led several expeditions into new territory and fought in the War of 1812 in the Battle of New Orleans.



SGT John Ordway — Recruited from the regular Army, he was appointed NCOIC and kept a journal in case Lewis and Clark’s records were lost.



PVT John Colter — After the expedition’s return, Colter went his own way, becoming a hunter and trapper and the first non-Indian to explore what later became Yellowstone National Park. He later served in the War of 1812.



PVT Pierre Cruzatte — Half French and half Omaha Indian, he was a professional riverboatman who also served as interpreter.



PVT Francois Labiche — Of French, Indian and African heritage, he was a boatman and served as interpreter for the Mandan chief who traveled to Washington after the expedition returned to St. Louis.

The Corps of **Discovery Troops**

Around the Services

Compiled by *SSG Alberto Betancourt*
from service reports



Navy

Seabees from California's Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 40 conducted NBC training in preparation for mission activities in the Persian Gulf region.



Air Force

Air Force power was demonstrated recently over the Hawaiian Islands as two KC-135 Stratotankers from the state's Air National Guard refueled two Air Combat Command B-1B Lancers during the last leg of the bombers' 19-hour, 15,000-mile mission. In what's called a "global power mission" an Air Force bomber can take off from its home base, fly anywhere in the world, drop its munitions and return home.



Marines

Thousands of marines were part of the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf. While most of the marines arrived in the Gulf on ships, some boarded chartered flights to the Persian Gulf region.



Coast Guard

The Coast Guard's Gulf Strike Force from Mobile, Ala., helped NASA scan the shoreline off Texas' Toledo Bend Reservoir for debris from the shuttle *Columbia*.



SGT Monica R. Garreau



Luke Spencer (left) and Scott Easton share a “cammo pack” while painting their faces during Hawaii’s Annual Cub Scout Schofield Days.

Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

Hawaii’s Cub Scouts Learn Soldier Skills

RAPPELING, crossing rope bridges and applying camouflage were some of the challenges met by over 800 Cub Scouts who attended the Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Air Assault School during the annual Cub Scout Schofield Days.

“It was really fun,” said Max Cone, a 10-year-old scout. “I liked the mud pit and ropes the best.”

He said he wasn’t afraid

because the safety ropes attached to the bridge allowed the kids to safely lean forward and back without falling into the pit.

The air-assault school instructors monitoring the event ensured the Scouts got the most out of their time.

“I had a lot of fun with the kids,” said PFC Gary Strickland of Company C, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment. “The rest of my company had time off, but I’d rather have been out here. It was cool for me to teach the youngsters about the Army, let them have a little fun and spend time with their

parents.”

The events provided a good learning experience for the boys, said Shawn White, one of many parents who attended the event.

“The survival training kept the scouts engaged because they talked about things they

can use when they go camping,” said White. “It was great how the soldiers involved the scouts and let them do hands-on stuff, instead of just doing demonstrations.”

All the scouts participating in the event earned a badge. One boy said the training helped him become a better scout.

“I learned a lot of things about survival,” said 10-year-old Koa Gibson. “I had a lot of fun and I can’t wait to come back next year.” — *SGT Monica R. Garreau, 17th Public Affairs Team*



Schofield air-assault instructor SSG Robert Burgos helps Brandon Moran step off the platform of the 45-degree jump tower.

Saudi Arabia

ROE Training for ARCENT Soldiers

"TO shoot or not to shoot" was the question soldiers from Army Forces Central Command in Saudi Arabia had to answer during training on the theater of operation's standing rules of engagement.



SGT Jenette Beasley (right) demonstrates to SGT Victor Consiglio of the 163rd MP Co. that her M-16A2 rifle is clear following the ROE training.

The training, sponsored by ARCENT-SA's Command Judge Advocate office and the 153rd Military Police Company, reinforced recent classroom instruction on the rules of engagement under which the command operates.

"The rules of engagement are directives that authorize armed forces personnel and Department of Defense civilians to use force, including deadly force," said MAJ Matt Myers, the ARCENT-SA command judge advocate.

"The rules of engagement allow personnel to protect themselves, other U.S. military members, U.S. citizens, and any other people or property that the commander designates," Myers said.

He added that the rules also direct soldiers to avoid injuring innocent civilians, and that they limit the amount of collateral damage that can be caused while responding to threats.

The training included such different scenarios as reacting to crowds outside a secured perimeter and how to handle convoy security.

"The soldiers demonstrated their ability to handle their weapons safely and clear the weapons of ammunition," said Myers. "I'm confident this training proved to them that they are well trained and ready to apply the rules of engagement today." — *MAJ Chris Garver, ARCENT-SA Public Affairs Office*

Camp Denali, Alaska

Alaska Guard's Buddy Platoon Graduates

THIRTY-ONE Alaska Army National Guard soldiers participating in the state's "buddy platoon" program recently received their distinctive blue infantry cords at a Fort Benning, Ga., ceremony.

LTC Peter Savage, commander of the Alaska Guard's Retention and Recruitment office, said the buddy platoon system allows Alaska soldiers to go through 16 weeks of basic and advanced infantry training as a team rather than just as individuals.

"The buddy platoon concept came about because many of our soldiers are from rural Alaska," said Savage. "Army basic training is difficult enough for anyone, but it can be particularly difficult if you are from isolated areas of Alaska."



Members of the Alaska National Guard's buddy platoon graduate from infantry training at Fort Benning.

The buddy platoon allows soldiers to draw on each other's strengths and help each other through difficult moments, participants explained.

"The first month of training was hard," said PV1 Kane Tangiegak. "I was homesick. But once I got focused, things went better."

PV1 Chris Matchian agreed that having people he knew and identified with sharing the experience helped him through the training.

CPT Adam Lewis, commander of Fort Benning's Infantry Training Brigade's Company D, said he thought the buddy platoon system was good for the soldiers.

"The infantry course is considered by many to be one of the Army's most physically challenging and disciplined training schools," said Lewis. "It helps when you can meet this challenge surrounded by friends." — *SSG Mac Metcalfe, Alaska Army National Guard Retention Office*



For the first time since 1945, members of The U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own," performed in a theater of foreign operations as they journeyed through Southwest Asia on a weeklong tour. The Army Band group nicknamed "DownRange" opened the 90-minute show for hundreds of soldiers with top-40 hits. The band's last wartime foray abroad took place during World War II, when it marched in a May 14, 1945, victory parade on the Champs Elysée in Paris.

Power of Attorneys

SGLI Coverage

Wills



Soldier Business

DEPLOYMENTS and separations from home station are common events in military life that require soldiers to have their personal affairs in order. Yet military attorneys regularly encounter soldiers who need last-minute assistance before leaving on deployment or temporary-duty assignments. This rush to complete such routine paperwork on short notice causes unnecessary anxiety for soldiers and family members and undue pressures on servicing staffs.

Lessons From the Past

Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm uncovered a large number of service members who were not prepared for deployment because their personal affairs were not in order. Although every unit underwent routine exercises to ensure preparedness, thousands of wills, powers of attorney, identification-card applications for family members, and other documents had to be initiated and completed before deployment. Instead of using predeployment time for unit equipment readiness, commanders and soldiers

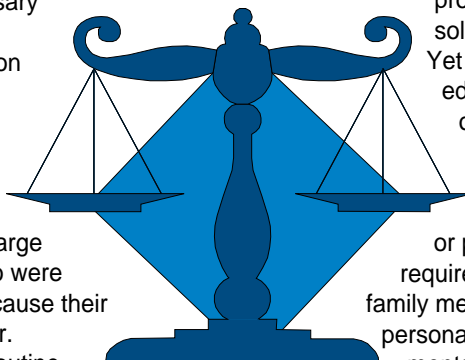
were forced to concentrate on personal legal and medical matters, causing delays and confusion.

Emergency Deployment Exercises

Personnel readiness activities, from emergency deployment readiness exercises to soldier readiness processing, continue to identify soldiers who need legal services. Yet many of these soldiers repeatedly fail to make legal appointments or complete their paperwork, even after they've been identified.

Unlike an immunization that can be administered at any time or place, legal matters usually require discussions with relatives and family members regarding the soldier's personal affairs, followed by appointments to review such related documents as life-insurance policies,

contracts, divorce decrees and separation agreements. A legal officer's failure to properly interview and advise a client beyond the confines of a hasty exercise, and a failure to prepare legal documents tailored to that client's situation, is malpractice. Neither the soldier nor his commander should settle for less than the best of legal service.



Steven Chucala is chief of client services in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Be Ready to Deploy

Humanitarian and peacekeeping missions often include some of the same risks soldiers face in combat, and they're generally more likely to occur without warning. Recent floods, hurricanes and forest fires are proof of how soldiers may have to respond to sudden emergencies. In addition to unit deployments, individuals with specialized skills may be called from otherwise stable assignments to meet critical needs. In either case, the soldier must be prepared to go at a moment's notice and should have at least a general or special power of attorney, a living will and a regular last will and testament. The spouses of service members should also have similar legal documents.

The Value of a Will

There is no civilian or military legal requirement to have a will, but failure to have one upon death will normally result in unnecessary burdens and grief to the surviving family members.

A will names the person who has the authority to act on the deceased's behalf. It specifically declares how the assets will be distributed, appoints guardians of children and establishes trusts for minor or adult children. The will also provides for many other aspects ranging from personal gifts or gifts to charities, to what actions to take to meet the deceased's legal and financial obligations.

Powers of Attorney

Powers of attorney range from "general" that cover the vast majority of property matters to "special" powers of attorney that accomplish a particular task. When giving a power of attorney, you are appointing an "agent," with the same authority as yourself, to act in your behalf. It is important that the person appointed is totally trustworthy and understands your wishes, because that person's signature can bind you to a contract or other obligation. Once a power of attorney is given, it is very difficult to void unless it can be retrieved from the agent and destroyed. For this reason, most general powers of attorney will have specific termination dates.

SGLI Coverage

A \$250,000 SGLI insurance policy is normally one of the largest dollar assets in a soldier's estate, so it must be treated seriously. Periodically review who is named as the primary and alternate beneficiary of the policy, and change these beneficiaries as your circumstances change. Single soldiers often will name a family member or current girl/boyfriend as the beneficiary, then marry without changing the beneficiary to be the spouse and children. This failure to update beneficiaries has proven disastrous to surviving family members, because the SGLI benefit must be paid to those named in the policy, regardless of what may be stated in a last will and testament.

Another common error is to use "By Law" to indicate the beneficiaries. To ensure the correct beneficiaries receive the money, always list the names and specific relationships of the beneficiaries and the percentage to be paid to each person. For payment directly into a trust established by a will, the beneficiary should state: "Payable to the trustee established in my last will and testament for the benefit of my son/daughter, John/Jane Doe."

By doing so, the funds will go into the trust without court appointment of a custodian of the funds, as would be needed if payment was directly to a named minor.

We're Here for Your Protection

Legal-assistance attorneys can create and tailor the documents required to fit your needs and complete their execution before a notary public. It is not necessary to take annual leave to visit your legal-assistance office, as these matters are "soldier business" and may be accomplished during duty time with the absence approval of your superior.

Legal services from active-duty legal-assistance offices are free military benefits provided to active-duty soldiers, retired military members and their authorized family members. Members of the Reserves and National Guard have judge advocates within their chains of command to assist them and should not wait until they're mobilized to seek legal services. □



Sharp Shooters

Photos by Al Vogel

DUGWAY Proving Ground's primary mission is to test defenses against biological and chemical warfare agents. The Army installation, located in Utah, covers nearly 800,000 acres and is 40 miles and a mountain range away from the nearest town. Al Vogel, the public affairs officer for the installation, recently photographed the DPG's civilian firefighters training to fight potential propane and natural gas fires.

A Dugway firefighter directs spray against the "Christmas tree," a training device that can produce flames up to 35 feet high.



An initial blast of water helps cool down a blazing propane tank.



Dugway firefighters are silhouetted against the massive flames of the "Christmas tree." The valve, seen along the feeder line, must be turned off to extinguish the flames.

Standard photo submissions for Soldiers Sharp Shooters can be mailed to Photo Editor, Soldiers, 9325 Gunston Road, Suite S108, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581. Photo submissions of digital images should be directed to alberto.betancourt@belvoir.army.mil. All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

You Call, They Haul

Story and Photos by Heike Hasenauer

The sun rises over the Pacific Ocean as the Army logistics support vessel *CW3 Harold C. Clinger* sails toward the island of Hawaii.



For soldiers aboard Army logistics support vessels based in Hawaii, moving people and equipment among the islands is commonplace, but by no means humdrum.

THE Army logistics support vessel *CW3 Harold C. Clinger* rocked and rolled, rising and falling as its flat bottom smacked 10- to 12-foot waves off the coast of the “Big Island” of Hawaii — as the largest of the Hawaiian Islands is known.

For soldiers of the 605th Transportation Detachment stationed at Ford Island, on Oahu, sailing the sea

around the islands is commonplace, but by no means humdrum.

Most of them are awed every time they sail, said CW4 Jim Guest, who’s been sailing on Army vessels for 30 years.

This night’s voyage — to the port of Kawaihae — was typical, Guest said, scanning the seemingly endless ocean and acknowledging the star-studded sky that was dusted by the

shadowy white trail of the Milky Way and punctuated by a golden, crescent moon.

“It’s therapeutic, every time I do this,” said Guest, standing away from the vessel’s bridge rail, where the wind was so strong it could easily have knocked him off balance.



PFC Leisha Armijo secures *Clinger*’s gangplank as the ship’s crew prepares to sail from Pearl Harbor on Oahu.



One of the soldiers on the 4-to-8-p.m. watch checked all the deck lights and scoured the sea a last time before the soldiers of the next watch came on duty. "I'm most concerned about little boats out there, with no lights on, which might not show up on our radar," said acting vessel master CW3 Don Berg, who's typically the ship's first mate.

Guest — the harbor master of the 605th's parent unit, the 545th Trans. Det., and a former commander of the *Clinger* — was on board the LSV to observe Berg's performance.

"Kawaihae is a tough port to get in

SPC Jaime Maldonado checks the LSV's position using maps and data supplied by the ship's Global Positioning System equipment.

and out of, due to wind direction and ocean conditions," said Guest. "It can be real tricky for anyone who hasn't sailed into that port a few times."

Before the start of the midnight watch, most of the crew, many of whom had been below deck playing chess and watching a Dallas-Houston football game, retired to their berths and staterooms. And the only sounds were the steady splash of waves against the hull, the creak of metal, and the occasional voices of the watch crew on the bridge.

As the sea grew rougher, pipes rattled, hangers in their metal lockers clanked with the rhythm of the ship's roll, and anything not resting firmly on the foam place mats that covered desks, tables and other of the ship's



Crewmembers prepare to raise the gangplank before *Clinger's* departure from Oahu. The voyage to Kawaihae, some 155 nautical miles away on the Big Island of Hawaii, takes roughly 16 hours.

The 272-foot Clinger and a newer LSV, the Charles Gross, regularly make the roughly 16-hour journey from their port at Pearl Harbor, on Oahu, to Kawaihae.



Members of the LSV's bridge crew carefully navigate the vessel through the often crowded confines of Pearl Harbor on the way to the open sea.

furnishings slid from side to side.

The 272-foot *Clinger* and a newer LSV, the *Charles Gross*, regularly make the roughly 16-hour journey from their port at Pearl Harbor, on Oahu, to Kawaihae, some 155 nautical miles away, primarily to support training exercises of the Oahu-based 25th Infantry Division.

The division regularly trains at Pohakuloa Training Area, a sprawling, austere landscape of jagged black lava rock on the Big Island. Because of the site's elevation, it's ideal for training aviation crews and their support units, a division spokesman said.

With 10,500 square feet of cargo area, *Clinger's* main deck "is our 'bread and butter,'" said third mate CW2 Tim Turner.

Collectively, the two boats average about 180 days deployed, mainly among the Hawaiian Islands, said CPT Brian Richie, who commands the headquarters element of the 545th Harbormaster Detachment. But the *Clinger*, which can haul up to 23 M1 tanks, has sailed as far as Korea, Johnson Island and Kwajalein Atoll.

Upon the ship's arrival at Kawaihae the next morning, the roughly 30-member crew of enlisted soldiers and warrant officers — among them three cooks, a communications

Bringing the mooring lines aboard and stowing them properly is one of the many tasks crewmembers perform before the ship gets underway.





The raising of the flag marks the beginning of another day at sea.

NCO and a medic — would upload Humvees, 5-ton trucks and containers belonging to the 25th Aviation Brigade.

The vessel and its crew would likely make two roundtrips to transport all the unit's equipment back to Pearl Harbor, Richie said. "Sometimes we make three or four consecutive roundtrips."

Before they left Pearl Harbor, the soldiers inspected every part of their ship to ensure equipment — including fire suits, adjustable shoring batons (to shore-up bulkheads) and fire-smothering foam — was where it should be.

Weather forecasts predicted 20- to 25-mile-per-hour winds, 8- to 10-foot waves and isolated showers. Nothing out of the ordinary. During the long hours at sea, the crew would undergo man-overboard, abandon-ship and fire drills some time in the middle of the night, "when they least expect them," Guest said. "It keeps us all on our toes, because, nine times out of ten, missions are pretty routine. If this job gets too exciting, something's wrong."

That's not to say the cruises to ferry equipment between the islands

During the long hours at sea, the crew would undergo man-overboard, abandon-ship and fire drills some time in the middle of the night.



are without excitement.

"Until this point, the islands of Molokai and Lanai have protected us from the winds," Guest said, as he outlined the ship's course. "As we pass through the Alenuihana Channel, between Maui and Hawaii, at 3 or 4 a.m., we can expect rougher seas, because there's nothing protecting us from the wind."

"It's a good life here," said SGT John Dunn, "compared to sweating in the field, out in the mud, fighting off mosquitoes."

Some of the ship's amenities include satellite TV and movie videos, plus some of the best menus anywhere.



Junior marine engineer SSG Tomaso Santomauro helps maintain the equipment that keeps the vessel running smoothly.

"This is the 'field' for us," said SPC James Stanton.

"This is as different from the infantry as night is from day," Stanton added. "For a cook, the greatest differences are being part of a smaller group of cooks, which prepares food for fewer people, and, of course, being susceptible to seasickness. In six months, six cooks have had to leave because they got sea sick."

"I wanted to be in the infantry and go to Ranger School," said PFC Leisha Armijo, causing some of the crew to

laugh — good naturedly — yet again. "My recruiter told me women can't do that. So, I told him, 'Just don't put me behind a desk.'"

Now she pulls watch with the other crew members, loads and unloads cargo, and performs the other jobs required of the deck crew, sometimes putting in 16-hour days.

Some of the ship's most serious business takes place in the engine room, where a team of two enlisted soldiers and an officer controls the vessel's main propulsion and electrical and sanitation systems, said third engineer CW2 Brian Duff, a former mechanical operator aboard a Navy Trident submarine.

Dunn also previously served in the



During the voyage to Kawaihae, *Clinger* sails past several of the other Hawaiian Islands, and typically runs into heavier seas in the channel between Maui and Hawaii.



"It's just awesome," Gross said. "There's no other job like this in the Army."

Navy, where he worked aboard an aircraft carrier. During a previous assignment with the 97th Trans. Company at Fort Eustis, Va., Dunn and his unit assisted the Coast Guard in its effort to fight the importation of drugs into the United States through the Caribbean.

"I sailed to Korea with this unit," said PFC Josh Gross. "It took us 21 days to get there, with no stops. Day after day at sea can get old. But then there are evenings when the moon is full and you see rainbows at night over the bow — the full spectrum of colors. It's just awesome. There's no other job like this in the Army." □



Clinger slowly moves in toward the offload point at Kawaihae (above), and once the ramp has been lowered, crewmembers supervise the discharge of her cargo (right).





Hawaii

HAWAII has always been the perfect vacation destination — wonderful scenery, great weather, friendly people and an abundance of laid-back tropical charm. And when it comes to welcoming military travelers, few places are as gracious as America's 50th state.

The best news is that a Hawaii vacation doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. By taking advantage of the accommodations and services offered on three of the islands to service

members and other authorized users, the savvy traveler's time in paradise can be both delightful and affordable.

Because there are far more things to see and do in Hawaii than we can possibly list here, prospective visitors should visit the official Army morale, welfare and recreation site for help in planning their itineraries. The cost of lodging is usually the biggest expense on any vacation, but affordable accommodations are available to qualified military-affiliated visitors to Oahu, Kauai and the Big Island of Hawaii. For specifics on guest eligibility, reservation policies and the best

Guests at the full-service yet affordable Hale Koa military resort on Oahu are just steps away from famed Waikiki Beach.

on a Budget

Story and Photos by Steve Harding

times to visit, check each facility's Web site.

Oahu

Though not the largest of the Hawaiian Islands, Oahu is in many ways the best known. Home of bustling Honolulu, the state capital, and Hawaii's main international airport, Oahu is a fascinating blend of big-city glitter and small-town friendliness. From famed Waikiki Beach to Pearl Harbor to the huge North Shore surf, Oahu is Hawaii's hub. It is a wonderful destination in itself, as well as a convenient jump-

ing-off point for travel to the other islands.

Oahu also offers the largest variety of military vacation accommodations in Hawaii. These include the Hale Koa Hotel on Waikiki, the Waianae Army Recreation Center, and facilities at Bellows Air Force Station and the Marine Corps base at Kaneohe Bay.

The Hale Koa is perhaps the best known of Oahu's military resorts. Located on 75 acres of prime Waikiki beachfront at Fort DeRussy, the resort hotel boasts 817 rooms, a range of restaurants and snack bars, fitness

center, post exchange, gift shops and its own beach. The Hale Koa offers several categories of rooms, from standard to deluxe oceanfront, and rates range from \$67 to \$174 per night, double occupancy, based on rank and room category.

If you're looking for something a bit further from the bright lights of Honolulu, try the cabins and campsites at Bellows AFS. Located on Oahu's southeastern shore just south of Kaneohe Bay, the facility offers three levels of beach cabins ranging from \$55 to \$65 per night, depending on

Web sites to visit

Army MWR

www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/paths/hi.asp

The Hale Koa

www.halekoa.com

Bellows Air Force Station

www.bellowsafs.com

Marine Corps' Kaneohe Bay

www.mccshawaii.com/cottages.htm

Waianae Army Recreation Center

www.mwrarmyhawaii.com/lodging/waianaelg.asp?id=20

Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range

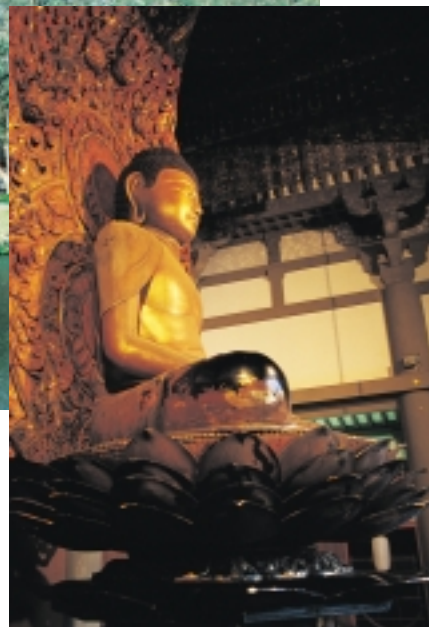
www.pmr.f.navy.mil/mwr-cot1.html

Kilauea Military Camp

www.kmc-volcano.com



Among the many fascinating — and free — sites on Oahu is the Byodo-In Buddhist temple near Kaneohe (above). A replica of a 900-year-old temple in Uji, Japan, the shrine houses the magnificent, nine-foot-tall Lotus Buddha.



amenities and location. Camping is an option on both family and group sites.

Beach cottages are also available on Oahu's northeastern coast, at the Marine Corps' Kaneohe Bay facility. Formally known as Marine Corps Base, Hawaii, the installation offers two-bedroom cottages at \$75 to \$80 per night, depending on location. MCBH is also home to the Lodge at Kaneohe Bay, which offers 74

kitchenette-equipped rooms, a picnic area and easy access to the base's exchange and other retail outlets. The room rate is \$75 per night, which includes a complimentary continental breakfast.

Perhaps the best beach facility on Oahu, the Waianae Army Recreation Center, is just 35 miles from Waikiki on the island's western, or leeward, coast. WARC offers 39 air-conditioned

beachfront cabins, all with ceiling fans, cable TV, telephone, full kitchens, private sundecks and barbecue grills. Rates range from \$45 to \$95 per night, depending on rank, and reservations may be made up to a year in advance.

Getting to Paradise

ONE of the biggest expenses of a Hawaiian vacation has always been getting there. Unless you're independently wealthy, an ocean voyage is probably out of the question. And if you're not visiting the islands on temporary duty or for other official reasons, you're left with having to find your own way there.

The bad news is that commercial flights to Hawaii from the U.S. mainland tend to be expensive, especially during the peak travel season. But the good news is that there are almost as many less-expensive ways to get to Hawaii as there are affordable places to stay once you arrive.

The first option for authorized users is space-available travel on U.S.

military aircraft. Air Force Air Mobility Command transports regularly fly to Hawaii from bases in the continental United States, Asia and even from Europe, and there are also occasional flights operated by the other military services. Two excellent unofficial resources for in-depth information on all-service Space-A routes, schedules and eligibility are www.glue.umd.edu/~oard/spacea/ and <http://spacea.info>.

The second option is to take a scheduled commercial flight. Hawaii is served by several of the major carriers, most of which charge hefty fares for in-season travel. Sites such as Travelocity (www.travelocity.com) and Expedia (www.expedia.com) can help you compare schedules and prices. Airlines sometimes offer

special rates that are available only through their own Web sites, so you might also want to check the individual carrier sites.

The third option for air travel to Hawaii is to take a charter flight or package tour. While Travelocity, Expedia and similar sites carry useful information, perhaps the best source for Army travelers is the Army MWR site at www.armymwr.com/portal/travel/travelresources. The site highlights special tours, package deals and reduced-cost travel options open only to military members and other authorized patrons.

Finding a flight to Hawaii at the right price might take a bit of research, but the result — a vacation in paradise at a reasonable cost — is definitely worth the effort. — *Steve Harding*

Kauai

Known as the “Garden Isle,” Kauai lies about 75 miles northwest of Oahu. Renowned for its pristine beaches and ruggedly beautiful terrain, the island is a sports paradise. The surfing, diving, snorkeling, kayaking, rafting and golfing are all world-class, and a visit to the famed Waimea Canyon is guaranteed to awe even the most jaded traveler. Though shopping and nightlife options aren’t as extensive as on Oahu, Kauai does have some excellent and very affordable shops and restaurants.

For military visitors, the best lodging option on Kauai is definitely the 12 beachfront cottages at the Navy’s Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range Facility. Each two-bedroom cottage has a kitchen, cable TV, washer and dryer, microwave and outdoor grill. The rate is \$55 per night, double occupancy, and \$5 per night for each additional guest. The PMRF’s morale, welfare and recreation office can also help visitors arrange island

tours, adventure treks, river cruises and a wide range of other activities.

The Big Island

For those looking for scenery even more dramatic than that found on Kauai, the island of Hawaii is the place to go. Known as the Big Island, it is just that — twice as large as all the other Hawaiian Islands combined. And it’s getting bigger all the time, thanks to the lava flowing from Kilauea, the world’s most active volcano.

While Kilauea and Mauna Loa, her larger though inactive sister, dominate the skyline, the Big Island offers a range of other sights. Soaring water falls, black-sand beaches, historic Hawaiian temples and acres of Kona coffee trees all catch the eye, and a wide range of outdoor activities offer something for everyone.

It’s only fitting that a place as exotic as the Big Island should offer accommodations that are beyond the ordinary — and that’s just what authorized travelers will find at

Kilauea Military Camp . Located within Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, the joint forces recreation center has a 110-bed dormitory, cottages and apartments, with rates ranging from \$15 to \$101 per night, depending on the accommodation and guest’s rank.

An Affordable Paradise

Hawaii has always welcomed military travelers, and you will be greeted with a smile. With a little planning, and by making use of all the discounts and special facilities open to authorized users, your vacation in paradise will leave you smiling, too. □

Aloha!



Whether it’s lazing on the beach, getting a close-up view of the islands’ history at the Hawaii Maritime Center (above) or enjoying the view from atop a shrine-capped hill (main photo), Hawaii has something to entice every visitor.

National Guard Aids in Shuttle Recovery

Story and Photos by MSG Bob Haskell

TEXAS National Guard soldiers from the 6th Civil Support Team, trained to conduct tests for toxic substances, dealt with a dangerous piece of history — a ruptured fuel tank from the space shuttle *Columbia* — in the Piney Woods region of East Texas, near San Augustine, Feb. 5.

Two members of the team from Austin, wearing protective suits, boots, face masks and air tanks, ensured the tank from the ill-fated shuttle was no longer leaking its highly toxic propellant. They then carried the tank a few yards to an array of lights that heated and evaporated the nitrogen tetroxide that was still inside.

Some 716 National Guard soldiers, including civil-support teams from the neighboring states of Arkansas, New Mexico and Oklahoma, joined Texas Guard soldiers and federal authorities in the wide-ranging search for remains of *Columbia*'s seven crewmembers and debris from the shuttle itself.

"We were pretty sure we would need a large number of troops because of the sheer size of the area that was covered," said COL Eddy Spurgin,

MSG Bob Haskell works for the National Guard Bureau's Public Affairs Office.



(Main photo) SSG Anthony Buck (*in blue*) and SGT James Cambron, members of the Texas National Guard's 6th Civil Support Team, examine a ruptured propellant tank from the space shuttle *Columbia*.

(Right) *Columbia*, seen here lifting off from its Florida launch pad on Jan. 16, broke apart on re-entry, killing all seven astronauts aboard.



NASA photo



Texas Guard soldiers SGT Larry W. Goff (left) and SGT John Lasseigne, both of 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment, prepare an AH-64 for another search mission.

commander of the Texas National Guard's 36th Infantry Brigade.

"We're here for as long as they need us, and we'll do whatever we're asked to do," said Spurgin, after the mission for the Texas soldiers was extended through Feb. 12.

Another 104 Louisiana Guard soldiers were supporting the search for wreckage that landed in that state, and four members of Louisiana's 62nd CST were assisting the Louisiana State Police.

"This is the day," said Air National Guard 2nd Lt. George Pearson about how hard the 6th CST had trained for its brush with history.

It was four days since *Columbia* had broken up 39 miles over the Texas countryside on Feb. 1 and since the titanium tank had crashed into a pine forest near the San Augustine and Angelina county lines.

The 3-foot-high circular propellant tank was the first of its kind built for the space shuttles, said John Robinson of United Space Alliance, a contractor for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. *Columbia* carried six such tanks, he said.

Built in 1981, *Columbia* was the oldest of America's space shuttles. It was 16 minutes from completing its 28th successful flight when it broke apart and seven astronauts, including six military officers, died.

"We're path-finding here. This is the first time we've ever done this," said Robinson, who praised the Guard troops for their practiced and painstaking work. "This is fantastic support. They were very professional," he said.

They had to be. Although members of that team recounted how they had checked out other tanks from *Columbia*, this was the first one in which the propellant had leaked out.

Nitrogen tetroxide is a "greenish liquid or brownish vapor, stored in tanks and having a bleach-like odor," read guidelines given to public-service personnel who were collecting the debris.

"It's nasty stuff," said one member of the Texas team.

SSG Anthony Buck and SGT James Cambron handled the tank carefully, lifting it to check it out and then carrying it to the lights.

SSG Art Phillips and SGT David Kuykendall went in next to wrap plastic bags around the electrical connections to keep the light system working.

Robinson and a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency closely watched their progress.

"We were pretty relieved it wasn't any heavier than it was," said Buck, who estimated the tank and remaining propellant weighed about 40 pounds.

Everyone else, including LTC Brian Attaway, commander of the CST, was also relieved that the most serious situation his team had to deal with in relation to the *Columbia* crash went off without a hitch.

"Nothing happens in a hurry with hazardous materials," said MAJ Matthew Conde, the team's medical officer. "You map it out and set it up. You take your time."

The Guard's 22-member CSTs are trained to survey debris sites and test wreckage for toxic substances, including weapons of mass destruction, that could harm emergency responders. Checking out fuel tanks and other *Columbia* debris that fell on Texas, however, was totally unexpected.

"Helping to clean up after a space ship disaster was not on our radar scope," Buck said.

The Texas National Guard did everything possible to aid in that effort, said LTC John Stanford, the state's Guard spokesman.

More than 200 soldiers were added to the force on Feb. 5, and the crews of four AH-64 helicopters from the 49th Armored Division were using their target-imaging systems to look for wreckage, Stanford said.

Thirteen UH-60 helicopters and 84 military vehicles were also committed to the cause, he added. □

For more on the Guard's role in the Columbia recovery effort, visit the Web site www.ngb.army.mil



Guard CPL James Lindholm and Trooper John Byork of the Texas Department of Public Safety examine a small piece of shuttle debris.



The Medical Corps: **new 91W Health-Care Specialist**

LEADING the Army Medical Department's transformation efforts, the new 91W Health Care Specialist MOS improves the versatility of battlefield medicine and produces a significantly better-trained trauma medic. The 91W medic now has the essential skill mix to operate more independently, succeed during increased battle tempo, and overcome longer evacuation distances created by greater unit dispersion and maneuver.

The 91W replaces the 91B Combat Medic and 91C Licensed Practical Nurse or Licensed Vocational Nurse MOSs by combining the skills of both and adding significantly more training on how to care for trauma patients before they reach the hospital. The result is a medic who can do more and is better trained to assess, treat and evacuate traumatic and other combat-related injuries during war. □



SPC Erica Leigh Foley

SPC Kristina Kennedy, a 91W with the 339th Combat Support Hospital, checks the IV line and comforts a burn patient in the trauma room.

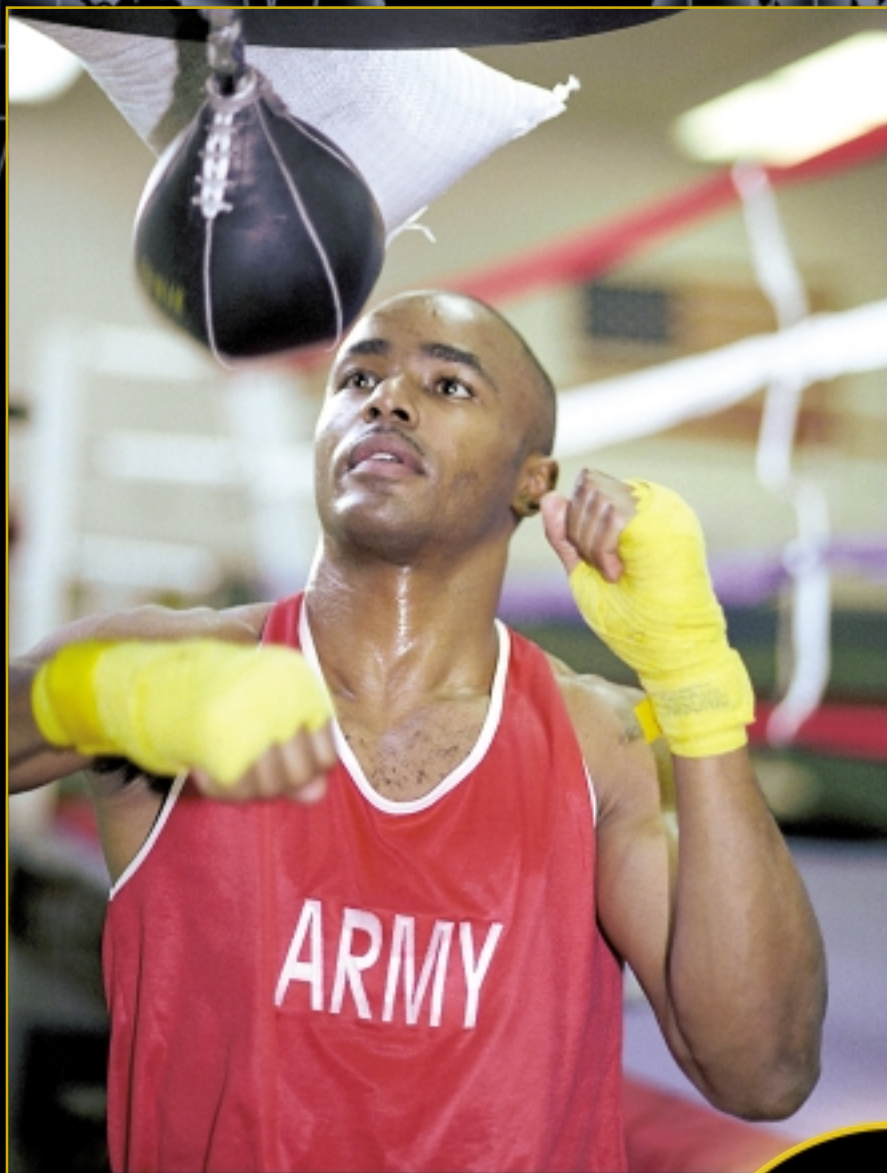


Christie Vanover

Soldiers at Fort Riley, Kan., undergo 91W training.



SSG JULIUS FOGLE III



SSG Julius Fogle III, a crewman on an Avenger air-defense system, began boxing in 1993 and has had an impressive career. From 1997 to 2002 Fogle was the All-Army gold medal champion and the Armed Forces gold medal champion, and in 2002 he became the U.S. National gold medal champion in the 165-pound weight class. He joined the Army in 1990.



BOXING

WCAP is one of 50 morale, welfare and recreation programs the Army provides soldiers and families worldwide through the U.S. Army Community & Family Support Center.